

ABSTRACT

A closure panel assembly includes a movable or "sliding" panel that is supported for sliding movement along a first direction by a guide rail disposed above an opening defined in a stationary or "fixed" panel. The guide rail includes an engagement portion that overhangs an upper portion of one face of the sliding panel. The overhanging engagement portion of the guide rail limits the relative movement of the upper portion of the sliding panel in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction, while further limiting a pivoting motion of the lower portion of the sliding panel in the second direction. A latch is operative to urge the lower portion of the sliding panel towards the fixed panel, whereupon the sliding panel pivots proximate to the guide rail into a closed position while also compressing a seal disposed between the sliding panel and the fixed panel.